

Requirements for Pest Management

Biological Control of Kudzu and Privet with Foraging Animals

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) 2008

Producer requirements for obtaining cost share for Pest Management Biological Control.

1. **Eligible lands:** land that has at least 50% or more canopy cover of Kudzu and Privet.
2. **Treatment Period:** grazing treatment for control of invasive plants will be for up to three years or less if control is achieved sooner. The prescribed Grazing prescription to control invasive plants will target priority areas. Sufficient animals will be needed to maintain 85 percent or more defoliation. Stock the treatment area in early spring prior to green up. The objective is to deplete carbohydrate reserves of invasive plants. Stock density of 10,000 lbs./ac. is a good starting point (i.e. 100/100 lb. goats on one acre or 25/100 lb. goats on ¼ acre). Stock density will depend on palatability of species being targeted and season of use. Vary the stocking rate and/or the area of treatment based on forage availability.
3. **Animal Welfare:** Supplemental nutrients should be provided to animals to maintain Body Condition Score (BCS) of 4, moderate condition, or higher. Animals can be brought in or removed from the treatment area to maintain their body condition and health. Complete the Graze Program in order to balance livestock forage needs with the forage produced and purchased. Adjust livestock numbers, fertilizer rates, or purchased feed in order to meet livestock forage needs.
4. **Erosion Control:** Always consider erosion and impact on sensitive areas. Monitor erosion potential, one option if erosion is a threat is to unroll hay which has seed of a desired species in it. Animals will tromp in mulch and seed as well as fertilize the seeding with manure.
5. **Follow-up Control:** If invasive plants are present after prescribed grazing for three years, chemical spot treatment and/or physical removal will be used. If chemical treatment is used follow label and adhere to grazing restrictions. No additional cost share will be provided for chemical treatment.
6. **Recordkeeping**
Minimum records are:
 - Photo's before and after grazing
 - Number of animals/pounds of animal
 - Date grazed
 - Begin and ending grazing height
 - Days grazing
7. **Payments** for Pest Management Biological Control will be considered achieved if no live plant tissue is observed for a period of two months after grazing in the growing season (April – Oct.). Records of biological control must be submitted with receipts.